



Marion County Extension and 4-H Service District (MCE4H)
Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2025
SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING

The meeting of the Marion County Extension and 4-H Service District (MCE4H) was called to order by Director Danielle Bethell at 3:03p.m. Introductions were made.

Board Members present: Commissioner Danielle Bethell, MCE4H Director; Commissioner Kevin Cameron, MCE4H Director; Commissioner Colm Willis, MCE4H Director;

Attending: Scott Norris, MC Legal Counsel; Stephen Elzinga, MC Legal Counsel; Trevor Lane, MC Board's Office; Toni Whitler, MC Boards Office; Chris Eppley, MC Deputy County Administrative Officer and MCE4H Budget Officer; Laura McClellan, MC Community Services; Kelli Weese, MC Community Services; Krista Ulm, MC Community Services; Elvira Alvarez, OSU Extension; Richard Riggs, OSU Extension; Collin Box, Capitol Futbol Club; Laura Primm, OSU Extension; Jessica Otjen, YMCA, Lisa Novak, YMCA; Christopher Grey, YMCA; Soraida Cross, YMCA; Amy Goulter-Allen, Volunteer;

District Minutes

The minutes from December 11, 2024 were presented for approval and signature.

MOTION: Director Cameron made a motion to approve the December 11, 2024 Marion County Extension and 4-H Service District Board meeting minutes as presented. Director Willis seconded the motion. **MOTION PASSED**

Capital Futbol Club (CFC) - Presented by Chris Eppley/Collin Box

Summary of Discussion

Capital Futbol Club is one of the 2 soccer clubs that receives funding towards providing grants to Marion County youth. Collin presented the submitted report stating that there were 60 youth recipients of these scholarships and spoke about the impacts soccer has in the long run for these youth who would not be able to participate in soccer if not for these scholarships.

Director Bethell requested a breakdown of ages, gender and zip code of the recipients of these scholarships. Collin Box responded that he would send a follow up report with that information to the board.

Collin Box mentioned potentially starting a coffee shop in-house run by the soccer club youth and Director Bethell asked Kelli Weese to work on overcoming barriers with CFC accessing the youth wage grant.

YEDAAG Update: YMCA - Presented Jessica Otjen

Jessica thanked the directors for the funding for their program as it has helped the YMCA with supplying scholarship funding and uniforms. She said they had over 350 participants since funding was awarded and expect numbers to grow as well as adding additional sport programs in Woodburn. Jessica offered to gather ethnicity, gender and zip code information for the participants for Director Bethell.



Marion County Extension and 4-H Service District (MCE4H)

Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2025

SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING

Fiscal Updates - Presented by Chris Eppley

Every year, the Service District develops a budget based on property tax assumptions provided by the Marion County's Assessor's Office. Chris states the numbers provided this October are in line with what the district has estimated with no projected shortfall.

In addition, the Marion County Tax Collector's provided notice of a potential refund of property taxes they are providing to PacifiCorp and Lowe's for \$250,000 total between the two companies. This amount is spread across the entire base of taxing entities in Marion County and based upon the special district's tax rate and base will result in a negligible impact on the district.

OSU Update - Presented Laura Primm

Summary of Presentation

Laura Primm presented her work with the rural community, educating the youth on agriculture and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics). Laura Primm said she had been to various fairs and events promoting 4H and OSU Extension and has made connections with teachers in the community.

Director Bethell stated she would like to see Laura Primm work with the Marion County Fair Board to explore the interest in expanding family-friendly activities.

Small Farms Faculty Proposal - Presented by Richard Riggs

Summary of Presentation

Richard presented a memo providing options for rehiring a small farms faculty position that became vacant when Hayley White left to assume a new faculty position.

For FY 24-25, MCE4H provided two thirds salary and the other payroll expenses (OPE), while Polk County provided one third of the Salary and OPE for a small farms outreach program coordinator. He said that Polk County was not capable of continuing funding the position and Richard requested direction on the appropriate course of action to take from the following options:

1. Leave position vacant
 - a. Richard stated he did not recommend this option
2. Continue the position funded at a 2/3 FTE
 - a. Richard disclosed that it is difficult to find good quality candidates at 2/3 FTE
3. Fully funding the program through MCE4H increasing faculty cost
4. Change the position from a small farm outreach program coordinator to applied research for small farms.
 - a. Richard believes this option would be beneficial to the county

Summary of Discussion



**Marion County Extension and 4-H Service District (MCE4H)
Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2025**

SERVICE DISTRICT MEETING

The directors requested more data on this position regarding how many people it serves and data on how it supports Marion County farms. Richard indicated that this information is currently being gathered and agreed to email the directors as soon as he receives it. Directors asked for the job description on the research position vs the current outreach position along with a list of topics that could potentially be researched.

Contracts – Presented by Chris Eppley

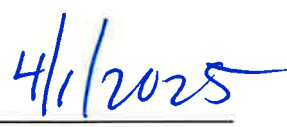
Chris Eppley presented the following contracts to the board:

1. The MCE4H Service District contracts for administrative support services from Marion County through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). The current IGA was extended in June of 2020 for 5-years, to expire on June 30, 2025.
2. The MCE4H Service District contracts for extension services through Oregon State University (OSU) through an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). The current IGA was extended in June of 2020 for 5-years, to expire on June 30, 2025.

Chris asked the board to review these contracts to collect feedback at the next scheduled meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:40p.m.

MARION COUNTY EXTENSION and 4-H SERVICE DISTRICT

Chair, Danielle Bethell

Date

Director, Colm Willis

Date



Director, Kevin Cameron

Date

Orig: Clerk

Cc: Board of Commissioners – MCE4HSD
Community Services